

Consecration of the High Altar

— AND —

Benediction of Sanctuary and Reredos

S. Clement's Church

November 22, 1908

The Right Reverend William Walter Webb, D. D.

Bishop of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Processional Hymn 602.

The Bishop, without his mitre, standing before the Altar, says :

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the Bishop puts on his mitre, and kneeling at a faldstool before the Altar, the Litany is said. Immediately before the petition, "Son of God, we beseech thee," the Bishop stands up and says the proper suffrages, as followeth :

That it may please thee to ✠ purify and ✠ bless this sanctuary :
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to ✠ bless, ✠ sanctify and ✠ consecrate this Altar to thine honour and glory :

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to ✠ bless, ✠ sanctify ✠ and consecrate this Tabernacle and this Reredos to thine honour and glory :

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Then the Bishop kneels down again, and the Litany is continued through the "Our Father." Then the Bishop, standing up, shall say :

LET US PRAY.

Let thy glory, O Lord, be manifested in the assembly of thy Saints and vouchsafe thy presence in this place, which hath been built for thy habitation : that thou who makest all things to work together for the good of those who are thy children by adoption,

mayest always be praised, worshiped and glorified by them in this thy heritage, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then all standing up, there shall be sung the Psalm following, the Bishop and his Chaplains going in procession about the Sanctuary, the one Chaplain sprinkling holy water and the other carrying the censer.

Antiphon. Bléss, O Lórd, this | hab | i | tation || búilt to the glory of thy | Holy | Name.

Psalm 122, *Laetatus sum.*

IV

I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lórd.

Our feét shall stánd in thý gates: O Jerusalem.

Jerúsalem is built as a city: that is at unity in itself.

For thithér the tribes go up, éven the tribes of the Lórd: to téstify unto Ísrael, to give thánks unto the Name of the Lórd.

For thére is the seat of judgement: even the seát of the house of David.

O práy for the peáce of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

Peáce be within thy walls: and plénteousness within thy palaces.

For my bréthren and companions' sakes: I will wish thee prosperity.

Yeá, because of the hoúse of the Lórd our God: I will seek to do thee goód.

Glóry be to the Fáther, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghóst:

As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever sháll be: World without end. Amen.

Ant. Bless, O Lord, etc.

Then all kneeling down, the Bishop standing before the Altar, with head uncovered, shall say:

LET US PRAY.

O God, who dost sanctify the places set apart for the glory of thy Name; pour down thy grace upon this Sanctuary that all those who in this place shall make their supplications unto thee, may obtain thy merciful aid and protection, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the Bishop, wearing his mitre, proceeds to the Altar, attended by his Chaplains, ascends the steps, and standing in the midst, proceeds to bless the Altar.

As the Bishop goes to the Altar, the Choir shall sing

Introibo ad Altare.

I. 4

Ant. I will go unto the | Altar | of | God | éven unto the Gód of my joy and | glad | ness.

Ps. Give sentence with me, O God, and defènd my caúse against the ungodly people: O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.

Glóry be to the Fáther, and to the Són, and to the Holy Ghóst: As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever sháll bé: World without end. Amen.

Ant. I will go, etc.

Then the Bishop, with the thumb of his right hand moistened with consecrated water, shall make four crosses upon the Altar, saying each time:

May this Altar be hal ✠ lowed in the name of the Fa ✠ ther and of the ✠ Son and the Holy ✠ Ghost. Amen.

Then the Bishop shall sprinkle the whole Altar with the water of consecration, and afterwards he shall cense it.

During the sprinkling of the Altar the Choir shall sing

Asperges Me.

VI

Ant. Thou shalt púrge me with hyssop, O Lórd, and I | shall | be | clean: || Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter | than | snow.

Ps. Have mercy upon me, O Gód, after thy gréat goodness: accórding to the múltitude of thy mércies do away mine offences.

Glóry be to the Fáther, and to the Són: and to the Holy Ghóst:

As it wás in the beginníng, is now, and ever sháll bé: World without end. Amen.

Ant. Thou shalt purge me, etc.

While the Bishop censes the Altar, the Choir shall sing

Stetit Angelus.

VIII. 2

Ant. An ángel cáme and stóod at the áltar, having a | gold- | en | censer, || and there was gíven unto him much incense; and the smóke of the incense ascended up be | fore | God.

Ps. Let my prayer be set fórth in thy sight as the incense: and let the lífting up of my hánds be an evening sacrifice.

Glóry be to the Fáther, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghóst:

As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever sháll be: World without end. Amen.

Ant. An angel came, etc.

Then the Bishop shall make five crosses upon the Altar with the holy oil, saying each time :

Vouchsafe, O Lord God, to hal ✠ low and | conse ✠ crate this Altar by this anointing and by our benediction, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

While the Bishop anoints the Altar, the Choir shall sing
Mane Surgens Jacob.

VII. 4

Ant. Jacob róse up early in the mórning, and sét up a stóne for a píllar, and poured óil upon the tóp of it, and vówed a vow | unto | the | Lord || Súrely the Lórd is in this pláce, and I | knew it | not.

Ps. O how amiable are thy dwellings : thöu Lord of hósts. Glóry be to the Fátther, and to the Són : and to the Holy Ghóst : As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever shall bé : World without end. Amen.

Ant. Jacob rose up, etc.

Then the Bishop shall make five crosses upon the Altar with the Chrism, saying each time :

Vouchsafe, O Lord God, to hal ✠ low and conse ✠ crate this Altar by the anointing of Chrism and by our benediction to thy glory and worship and to the honour of S. Clement. In the name of the Fa ✠ ther and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy ✠ Ghost. Amen.

While the Bishop anoints the Altar with the Chrism, the Choir shall sing

Unxit te Deus.

I. 2

Ant. Gód, even thý God, hath anóinted thee with the | oil | of | gladness || above | thy | fellows.

Ps. All thy garments smell of mýrrh, aloes, and cassia : out of the ivory pálaces whereby they have made thee glád.

Glóry be to the Fátther, and to the Són : and to the Holy Ghóst : As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever shall bé : World without end. Amen.

Ant. God even thy God, etc.

After anointing the Altar, the Bishop shall sit down on a seat near the Altar, and a clerk or acolyte shall minister to him. Having cleansed his hands, he shall rise, bless incense and cense the Altar, the Choir meanwhile singing

Ecce Odor.

VIII. 1

Ant. Behóld, the sméll of my son is as the sméll of a field which the | Lord | hath | blessed || therefore, God gíve thee of the déw of héaven, and the fáttness of the eárrh, and plenty of | corn and | wine.

Ps. Her foundations are upón the hóly hills : the Lord lóveth the gátes of Zíon more than áll the dwellings of Jacob.

Glóry be to the Fátther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghóst :

As it wás in the beginníng, is nów, and ever shall be : World without end. Amen.

Ant. Behold, etc.

The censeng ended, the Bishop standing, turned toward the Altar, shall say :

Dearly beloved brethren, let us beseech the mercy of God the Father Almighty that he may hearken to our cry and sanc ✠ tify by our bene ✠ diction this Altar now to be consecrated for the offering up of spiritual sacrifices ; that he may ever vouchsafe to hal ✠ low and bl ✠ ess the oblations which in worship of him his servants shall make thereon ; so that their offerings coming up with acceptance before him, he may give a ready ear to their prayers when they call upon him ; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Then all kneeling down, silence shall be kept for a space ; after which, all standing up, the Bishop shall say this prayer, consecrating the Altar :

LET US PRAY.

We humbly beseech thee, Almighty God, that thou wouldest receive our humble petitions and bl ✠ ess, sanc ✠ tify and conse ✠ crate at our hands this Altar, which we now dedicate to thy glory and worship in honour of blessed Clement, thy Bishop and Martyr, and in pious memory of thy servant and priest, George Herbert. Grant that the oblations made on this Table, being bedewed by the grace of thy Holy Spirit, may be acceptable and well pleasing unto thee ; and whensoever any of thy servants make their supplications towards this place, do thou hear their prayers, relieve their distress, heal their sickness, accept their vows, maintain their cause and grant them their hearts' desire ; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Then the Bishop, standing in the midst of the Altar, shall bless the Tabernacle.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY.

Almighty, Eternal God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that thou wouldest vouchsafe to send down the bene \times diction of thy grace upon this receptacle made meet for the reservation of the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Then the Bishop shall sprinkle the Tabernacle with holy water.

Then the Bishop shall bless the Reredos.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY.

Almighty and Merciful God, who from the beginning hast created things useful and necessary to mankind, and hast willed that temples made by the hands of men should be devoted to thy Holy Name and be called the places of thy habitation, and hast decreed that divers kinds of ornaments should be made for the glory and beauty of thy Tabernacle and Altar; graciously hear our prayers and vouchsafe by our humble services to purify, bl \times ess, sanc \times tify and conse \times crate all this carved and painted work prepared for thine honour and glory and for the use and adornment of this Church and Altar, that it may be meet for association with Divine worship and sacred mysteries; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Then the Bishop shall sprinkle the Reredos with holy water.

Then the Bishop, standing before the Altar, shall say the prayers following:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

LET US PRAY.

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity; we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who having finished their course in faith do now

rest from their labours; especially George Herbert, thy servant and priest. And we beseech thee that he with us and we with him, together with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy Holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

O Lord God Almighty, who art the author and source of all wisdom; we give thee hearty thanks for all our friends and benefactors through whose charity all these things which we have now blessed in thy Name, have been made and provided for this church. Remember this to them, O Lord, for good; bless them in mind and body, in soul and estate; be with them in the hour of death and in the day of judgment; and at the last, take them to thyself forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Then all kneeling, the Bishop shall pronounce this blessing:

The peace of God, etc.

After which all return to the sacristy, and the Altar is prepared for Mass.

While the Altar is being prepared, the Choir shall sing Hymn 396.

Introit for the Mass,

Quam Terribilis.

VIII. 2

Ant. How dreadful is this place; this is none other than the | House | of | God || and this is the | gate | of | Heaven.

Ps. The Lord is King and hath put on glorious apparel. The Lord hath put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.

Ant. How dreadful, etc.

The Collect. O God, who hast been pleased to ordain that the memorial of thy death should be celebrated in a perpetual sacrifice for the salvation of thy faithful people: Pour the power of thy blessing upon this Altar; that whosoever shall be partakers of thy divine gift may feel within themselves thine aid in this life present, and also in that which is to come, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Mac. iv, 52-59. Now on the five and twentieth day of the ninth month, which is called the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and eighth year, they rose up betimes in the morn-

ing, and offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new Altar of burnt offerings which they had made. Look, at what time and what day the heathen had profaned it, even in that was it dedicated with songs, and citherns, and harps, and cymbals. Then all the people fell upon their faces, worshiping and praising the God of Heaven, who had given them good success. And so they kept the dedication of the Altar eight days, and offered burnt offerings with gladness, and sacrificed the sacrifice of deliverance and praise. They decked also the fore front of the temple with crowns of gold and with shields; and the gates and the chambers they renewed and hanged doors upon them. Thus was there very great gladness among the people, for that the reproach of the heathen was put away.

Gradual.

Ant. My servants will I bring to my holy mountain : and make them joyful in my **House** of Prayer.

V. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine **Altar** : for mine house shall be called an **Hóuse** of **Práyer** for **áll** people. Alleluia, Alleluia.

V. **Blessed** art thóu in the temple of thine **Hóly** **Glory** : and to be praised and glorified above all forever. **Alleluia.**

Sequence, Hymn 239.

The Holy Gospel. S. John iv : 19-24. The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what : we know what we worship : for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

Offertory Hymn 233.

Post Communion. O Almighty and everlasting God, hallow this Altar dedicated to thy Name with the might of the heavenly benediction, and bestow the gift of thine aid upon all those who put their trust in thee : that here the power of thy sacraments may work in us mightily, and that here we may receive the fulfilment of our hearty desires, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 429.